

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his patience and perseverance in this matter.

Claims 1-18 are pending. An Office Action mailed February 14, 2006 rejected Claims 1-17 and objected to Claim 18. By way of this Amendment, Applicant hereby cancels Claims 7-9 and 14, amends Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 13, 17, and 18, and adds new Claims 19-23. Applicant hereby respectfully requests reconsideration of the application.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC 112

Applicant has cancelled Claims 8, 9, and 14, rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC 102

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Nelson. With regard to the amended claims, Applicant respectfully traverses.

Nelson neither teaches nor fairly suggests table units configured to be assembled together and positioned on a ladder having a pair of rails when the ladder is oriented such that the rails of the ladder are generally horizontal, the units positioned on and supported by the rails. Thus, Nelson cannot anticipate Applicant's amended Claims 1, 10, 13, and 17, all of which recite the feature that the table units are positioned on and supported by the rails of a ladder. As Claims 2-9, 11, 12, and 14-16 depend from allowable independent Claims 1, 10, and 13, these claims are also now in condition for allowance.

OBJECTION TO CLAIM 18

Claim 18 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Applicant has amended Claim 18 to put it in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and therefore Claim 18 should now be in condition for allowance.


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CONCLUSION

With the amendments set forth above, all of the remaining claims stand in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the Applicant's agent at the address and telephone numbers set forth above.

Respectfully submitted,

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